

# Springfield Newsletter

Aim High and Achieve Excellence, Together



Springfield  
Primary School

www.springfieldsch.org



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Springfield Primary School - Sunbury-on-Thames

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
Term 1, Issue 3

## A note from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

We have now begun to settle into the new routine of school and the children have been demonstrating excellent learning, with pupils in Years 5 and 6 producing some exceptional, creative writing around the Egyptians and *Rose Blanche*. In maths, pupils in Year 3 have been working incredibly hard and in Year 2 children have been investing their efforts into developing their reading skills in phonics. Well done to all children!

The safety controls in place for the **TikTok App** have been subject to extensive media coverage, particularly in the last few weeks. This App has a 12+ rating with children below this age advised not to use this. Please see the link below providing guidance about this App for parents:

<https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/tiktoks-top-10-tips-for-parents>

TikTok has its own safety centre "You're in Control," which "helps us in our mission to foster a safe, positive environment where users are in control and can express themselves creatively." Please see the link below for a series of helpful videos which guide parents in children safely using the App:

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/resources/safety-videos?lang=en&appLaunch=web>



Next week we begin our **Parent Puzzle Programme**; please see the letter that went out today. The programme will be delivered virtually this term. If you would like to attend please return the reply slip or email the office ([info@springfield.surey.sch.uk](mailto:info@springfield.surey.sch.uk)) and we will send you a link to access the meeting.

Under current guidance, we have our first **Open Morning** for small group tours beginning next week, **24<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am**. If you know of any parents thinking about a school or nursery place, do let them know. Places can be booked via the school office, with numbers capped at 6 people per group tour.

I wish you a restful weekend.

Mrs Caroline Gibbins

## Dates for your diary

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September**  
Year 4 Viking trip to Ufton Educational Trust

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September**  
Year 1 virtual phonics meeting – 9.30am

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
Virtual Harvest Festival Assembly

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September**  
Parent Puzzle workshop - 2.00pm

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**  
School photographer

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October**  
Virtual Parent Internet Safety Workshop 4.00pm

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October**  
Year 3 science workshop

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October**  
Virtual PTA Annual General Meeting – 7.00pm-8.00pm

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

- Virtual Parent Forum meeting – 9.30am
- Virtual Reception phonics meeting – 4.30pm
- Virtual Reception parent partnership meeting 5.00-6.00pm

### School Dinners:

Next week will be **Week 1** for ordering school dinners.

## Reading at Springfield

Top Tips for reading at home:

- Keep sessions short and often rather than long sessions weekly.
- Keep sessions relaxed – find a comfortable place where you and your child can settle down.
- Give lots of praise, progress may not always be fast – children do not always find the skill of reading and understanding easy to grasp.
- Talk about the book before you begin to read – look at the front cover, and the pictures (if any) and ask your child to think about or even guess what the book may be about.
- Ask questions to check your child's understanding e.g. What might happen next? Why did something happen?
- Talk about the book afterwards – did your child enjoy it? Why? What was the best bit?
- If your child struggles over a particular word, try to find ways to help them remember it e.g. by looking at the 'shape' of the word, or by guessing the word from the meaning of the sentence.
- Do not give up on the bedtime story, even if your child is a good reader. The more stories and books your child hears, the more they will want to read.
- Be a good model for your children – let them see you reading – anything and everything – newspapers, magazines, catalogues, books etc. Let them know that reading is a valuable skill.
- Tell them about a book or story you liked when you were a child.
- Make up a story or tell them about when you were a child or something that happened to you at school, remember you do not always need a book to tell a good story!
- Take it in turns to read parts of the story. For example, read a page or paragraph each.



## General Information

**Absence reporting** – If your child is not going to be in school, please leave a message on the dedicated absence option on the school's telephone system by no later than 9.00am.

**Parent Forum** – Please note that there has been a change to the date of the Parent Forum virtual meeting. This will now take place on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am.

**Dates for your diary** – Please find attached updated dates for your diary. This is also available to view on the website.

**Twitter and Facebook** – Do not forget to follow us on Twitter and Facebook, the details for which are at the top of this newsletter.

## Home Learning Stars

Year 1 have engaged with their 'Superheroes' topic for this term with a POW! Darcy designed a superhero mermaid, Elliot made a superhero robot that shoots spider webs and Sophie made a fantastic picture of Wonder Woman. Well done to all our Year 1 children!



## Lead Learner and Super Citizen

This week's Lead Learners were celebrated today, the focus being 'being ready to start work':

Sparrow	- Callum	Stoat	- Matthew
Nightingale	- Molly	Otter	- Maizy-Ann
Woodpecker	- Yaasmin	Buzzard	- Baneet
Mole	- Lucas	Osprey	- Lachlan
Bat	- Tommy	Eagle	- Summer
		Falcon	- Annie

This week's Super Citizens were celebrated today, the focus being 'making our school a better place':

Sparrow	- Darcy	Stoat	- Jack
Nightingale	- Pete-Junior	Otter	- Sidney
Woodpecker	- Leila	Buzzard	- Liam
Mole	- Theo	Osprey	- Anita
Bat	- Elisha	Eagle	- Layla
		Falcon	- Jared

Our Reception Kings and Queens for this week are:

Badger Class:

King - Neil

Queen - Xaphiae

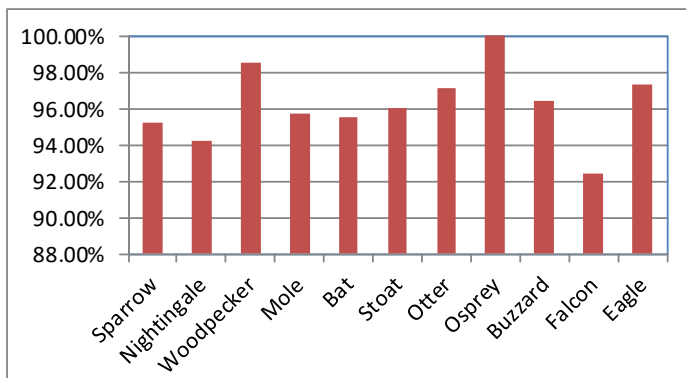
Fox Class:

King - Adam

Queen - Katrin



## Awards



**Attendance** – Our winners of the Attendance Cup for last week are:-

KS1 – Woodpecker with 98.5%

KS2 – Osprey Class with 100%

**TT Rockstars** – Otter Class are at the top of this week's leader board. Our top 3 children with the most accurate answers are Paige, Lakshmi and Aston. Well done!

## Girls' Well-being Team

Last year a small group of Year 5 and 6 girls worked with Mrs Standing to develop a policy to support our female pupils who need access to sanitary protection products in school. This has been a very important piece of work to ensure the ongoing well-being of our female pupils during what can be an unsettling and sensitive time, and we are so proud of our team for their maturity, honesty and empathy when sharing their ideas and experiences.

The policy has now been drafted and will be ready for inclusion on our website in September 2020. Details of the new policy will be shared with all of our Year 5 and 6 female pupils through a presentation led by female members of staff, given under socially distanced guidelines. A copy of the presentation will be emailed to all Year 5 and 6 parents prior to it being shared in school.

We would like to thank all members of the Girls Well-being Team for their hard work and commitment in helping to shape this policy. We are one of the first schools to have a policy of this kind and believe this reflects our ongoing commitment to the emotional well-being of our pupils.

## News from the Pastoral Team

A good night's sleep!

We are aware that several children are struggling to readjust to the school routine - particularly at bedtime. During lockdown, many families found it necessary to adjust their routines to accommodate different working patterns, but are now finding it tricky to re-establish previous routines, leading to tears and tantrums at bedtime. Following a number of conversations with families, we thought it would be a good idea to share some tips and strategies you may wish to try.

- Encourage children to take part in at least one form of exercise during the day so they are physically tired at bedtime. This could include a Joe Wicks workout on YouTube, a walk to the park or shops or P.E. at school.
- Establish a regular bedtime and stick to it. Many families provide flexibility in the form of a later bedtime at the weekend.
- Have a regular "wind down" routine so that children know when it is approaching bedtime. This could include a warm bath or shower, warm milky drink, watching a happy film, reading a happy book, relaxation exercises such as children's yoga or guided meditations (check out Cosmic Kids Yoga on YouTube for ideas).
- Turn off phones, tablets and computers at least an hour before bedtime.
- Ensure children go to the toilet before they go to bed.
- Wear socks! Studies have shown that having warm feet helps you to fall asleep quicker!
- Use a worry doll, worry box, worry monster or thoughts book for children to "download" any last thoughts or worries before bed.
- Have a special teddy available for a cuddle.
- Buy a plain white pillowcase and allow children to decorate it with happy words, thoughts and pictures using fabric pens.
- Read a story with your child or give them an opportunity to read independently before bedtime. Remember this routine could help them be entered into the reading raffle!
- Make or buy a dream catcher and hang it above the bed to catch any bad dreams.
- Ask children to draw what they want to dream about just before bedtime.

If you have any tips and advice you would be happy to share with other parents, we would love to hear from you! Please email them to the Pastoral Team using the [info@springfield.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@springfield.surrey.sch.uk) email address. As always, the Pastoral Team are available to support our children and their families. Please contact them via the school office.

### Useful Numbers and websites

In the event that you have concerns about a child and are not able to contact the school for advice, you may find the following numbers useful:

- Childline - 0800 1111 - available for children under 19 years
- Young Minds Parent Helpline - 0808 802 5544 - available Monday-Friday 9.30am - 4pm
- <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters> This site includes useful articles and resources on several topics including tips for looking after children's mental health, wellbeing advice and strategies to support working from home, loneliness and anxiety.
- <https://youngminds.org.uk/> This site provides advice and resources to support mental health and wellbeing in children and teens.
- <https://www.themix.org.uk/> This site provides advice and support for young people up to the age of 25, with more mature subject matter and content including mental health, managing finances, homelessness, job seeking, relationships and starting university.

**We would advise that parents visit sites themselves prior to sharing with their children to ensure they are happy with the subject matter and content.**

